



Secretary Pete Buttigieg U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Support – Salt Lake City Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program Grant Application – East-West Connections

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

On behalf of the Utah Transit Authority (UTA), I write in support of Salt Lake City's initiative to address east-west connections across the I-15 and north-south rail corridors, particularly for people walking, biking, and taking transit. This letter also serves as notification of UTA's financial support in the amount of \$500,000 towards the local match for this project application.

The transportation divide that currently exists when traveling east to west specifically affects the community that lives on the west side. This area is considered a disadvantaged community, and residents typically must travel to the east for work or groceries. These initiatives to provide connections in this area would considerably increase access to opportunity and decrease travel time that is impacted by the Union Pacific Railroad trains. These connections can also provide safer crossings for pedestrians and bicyclists.

UTA supports Salt Lake City's grant application to the federal Reconnecting Communities Pilot Program to conduct a comprehensive planning project to make improvements to multiple east-west crossings between 600 North and 2100 South. This work will improve our community and UTA's ability to provide efficient transit service to the community.

Sincerely,

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Jay M. Fox

Executive Director